False Maruti Claims Racket

*39. SHRI J.P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' of the 23rd October, 1985 regarding false Maruti claims racket prevailing in the country;

(b) whether some dealers of Maruti Udyog and General Insurance Corporation employees have been defrauding the Maruti Udyog heavily; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken against the dealers of Maruti Udyog and the employees of the General Insurance Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No such specific instance has come to notice.

(c) Does not arise.

Collection of Central Taxes

*40. SHRI BHAGAT RAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the figures relating to various Central tax collections during the first six months of the current financial year have been much more than that for the same period during the last year;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) how far the collections have met the expectations held out by him during the Budget discussions?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing collection of direct and indirect taxes upto September, 1985 and corresponding figures of collection upto September, 1984 is annexed.

(c) The collections of Central taxes upto the end of September, 1985, have met the expectations of collections higher than Budget Estimates.

Statement

Collections during the first six months of the Financial year 1985-86 and corresponding figures of collection during the last year upto September 1984 (1984-85)

(*Rs. in crores*)

Tax/Duty	Collection up to Sept. 1985	Collection up to Sept. 1984	Remarks
1	2	3	4
I. *Direct Taxes* :			
(1) Income Tax (including Corporation tax) .	1769·79	1390·64	+ 379·15
(2) Interest Tax*	44·86	64·23	— 19·37
(3) Wealth Tax	71·87	60·79	+ 11·08
(4) Estate Duty**	08.96	08·38	+ 0·58
(5) Gift Tax	04·75	04·31	+ 0·44
	1900·23	1528·35	+ 371·88

1	2	3	4
II. *Indirect Taxes* :			
(1) Customs duty	4196·58	3196·47	+1000·11
(2) Central Excise	5971·97	5205·96	+ 766·01
	10168·55	8402·43	+1766·12
GRAND TOTAL OF DIRECT AND INDIRECT TAXES .	12068.78	9930·78	+2138·00

*Interest Tax has since been abolished on interest accruing after 31-3-1985.

**In case of deaths occurring on or after 16-3-1985 there is no Estate Duty.

Working Group's report on Mining Quarrying of Limestone in Dehradun-Mussoorrie region

215. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the working group constituted to examine the question of mining quarrying of limestone in Dehradun-Mussorrie region and headed by Shri D. N. Bhargava has since submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, what are the salient features thereof; and

(c) what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Information in respect of parts (b) and (c) is given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Working Group's report on mining quarrying of limestone in Dehradun-Mussorrie region:

The salient features of the report are that for the production of 1.1 million tonnes to 1.5 million tonnes of limestone every year, a stretch of 40 Kms. covering an area 1000 Hectares is being mined which is very high. The Working Group divided the open-cast mining into two categories. The first category consisting of 20 mining leases was found suitable for mining purposes. The leases were, however, required to fulfil certain obligations regarding systematic operation of mines, employment of suitable qualified technical personnels etc. The second category consisted of 46 mining leases for which the Working Group recommended that they should be discontinued. No new mining lease should be granted straight away in the area without the entrepreneurs getting the prospecting licence, conducting exploration and submitting a mining scheme along with the application for mining lease. No lease for limestone as a minor mineral be granted. The Indian Bureau of Mines and the Directorate General of Mines Safety should be strengthened.

The report of the Working Group was considered by a Committee of Secretaries. The Committee recommended the review of existing legal provisions, preparation of exploitation plan, strengthening of Indian Bureau of Mines and Directorate General of Mines Safety etc. In the meantime a writ petition was filed by the Rural Litigation and Entitlement Kendra, Dehradun and Mussorrie area. The Supreme Court, vide an order dated the 12th March 1985, has directed the closure of certain mines and the termination of mining leases. In the case of certain other mining leases, the Supreme Court has appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri D. Bandyopadhyay, Secretary,